

Arizona Department of Education

Tom Horne,
Superintendent
of Public Instruction



Sixth Annual Transition Conference

Voices, Choices,
and Results
Youth in the Spotlight



September 18-19, 2006

Radisson Fort McDowell Resort
10438 N. Fort McDowell Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85264
800-715-0328 or 480-836-5300



Student Artwork

School	Name	Picture	Page
Cactus Shadows High School	Robert Reisner	Shapes	Cover
Chandler High School	Shawn Walker	The Colors of Friendship	Cover
Hopi Jr/Sr High School	Ryan Naha	Hopi spirits	Cover
Marcos de Niza High School	Juan Martinez	Eagle over Desert	Cover
Nogales High School	Rosario Valenzuela	Lighthouse	Cover
West Phoenix High School	Jaime Calderon	Woman	Inside Cover
Diana Carrillo	Rooster	Cover	
Erica Nieto	Ink on Paper	4	



Sponsored by:

- Arizona Department of Education, Exceptional Student Services
- Arizona Department of Education, Parent Information Network Specialists
- Arizona Department of Health Services
- Arizona Postsecondary Access Coalition
- Division of Developmental Disabilities
- Rehabilitation Services Administration, Vocational Rehabilitation
- Secure Care Education Committee

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Voices, Choices, and Results

Youth in the Spotlight

The 2006 Transition Conference “Voices, Choices, and Results” promises to showcase the talents of youth and young adults with disabilities. The creative artwork and entertainment of these individuals will be featured. The conference will center on ‘results’ and include sessions on *Youth and Young Adult Empowerment, Family Voice, Community Partnerships, Legal Implications, Accessing Community Resources, Secure Care, and Assistive Technology*. This is not the year to miss!

Who Should Attend?

- State and Local Special Education Directors
- Special Education Specialists, Teachers, and Professors
- School Psychologists, Education Specialists
- Secondary Special Education Administrators
- State Public Service Agency Personnel
- Individuals with Disabilities and Family Members
- Parent/Student Advocates
- Secure Care Personnel
- Disabilities Resource Services Personnel

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2006 Transition Conference will open Tuesday, May 16, 2006 and close Friday, September 1, 2006. Conference registration will be processed exclusively online. To register, please go to www.ade.az.gov; locate and click on “Calendar of Events” at the lower right hand corner of the screen. Click the drop-down menu on the calendar; select “September 2006,” and click on the date of “18.” Register by selecting the appropriate registration type as indicated below. If you experience any difficulty, please contact Jeannette Zemeida at (602) 542-3855.

Registration Type and Cost

Professional Educators, Service Agency Providers, and Other Professionals - \$180.00 both days or \$90.00 for one day
Youth and Family Members - \$80.00 both days or \$40.00 for one day

Registration will remain open from May 16 thru September 1 and is limited to the first 850 registrants only. In the event registration reaches capacity and closes before the deadline, you may contact Jeannette Zemeida at 602-542-3855 to be placed on a waiting list. Complete all registration information in detail.

Registration Payment

Payment must be made by purchase order, check, or cashiers check only. Credit cards and debit cards cannot be processed, nor will cash be accepted.

Make check payable to: Arizona Department of Education

Mail payment to: Arizona Department of Education
Exceptional Student Services
Attn: Jeannette Zemeida
1535 West Jefferson, Bin 24
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Attendance Confirmation

Attendance is strictly based on a registration confirmation and available capacity. Please do not consider the registration process complete without a confirmation number from the online process. Reservations will not be retained without advance payment per check, requisition number or copy of purchase order, which must be received by September 8, 2006 to validate your registration. Please retain and bring your confirmation number with you to the conference.

Refunds and Cancellations: All requests for refunds must be made in writing and postmarked no later than September 8, 2006. Cancellation requests will not be accepted after that date. **Registrant Substitutions:** Please advise by September 8, 2006 of any attendee substitutions. Call Jeannette Zemeida at (602) 542-3855 or email her at Jeannette.Zemeida@azed.gov with name changes.

Special /Dietary Needs: Identification of any special dietary needs must be made through the online Registration form or by calling Jeannette Zemeida at (602) 542-3855 or email her at Jeannette.Zemeida@azed.gov by September 1, 2006. **ADA Special**

Accommodation Needs: If you require special accommodations, please call Carla Valenzuela at (602) 542-3852 or email her at Carla.valenzuela@azed.gov with your request by September 1, 2006.

Room Registration – Make your reservations directly with Radisson Fort McDowell Resort by calling 1-800-715-0328 or 480-836-5300. Rooms will be held under Arizona Department of Education Transition Conference until September 8, 2006 at 5:00 pm at the rate of \$95.00 per night not including state and local taxes.

Program Overview

Keynote: LeDerick R. Horne – *September 18, 2006*

LeDerick Horne spent most of his time in school believing he did not have much of a future. A severe learning disability combined with low self-esteem led him to doubt he would be able to go to college or pursue a meaningful career. However, in the challenging academic environment at Middlesex County College, and with the support offered for his disability through Project Connections, a Learning Disabilities Resource Program at the College, LeDerick became an outstanding student, achieving a 3.75 grade point average. He transferred to New Jersey City University and graduated with honors from NJCU in 2003 with a BA in Mathematics. Since graduation, LeDerick has become the head of his own property management company, Horne & Associates, LLC, and was appointed the Board Chair of Project Eye-To-Eye, a natural mentoring program for students with Learning Disabilities. LeDerick is recognized as a national speaker and advocate for people with disabilities. He has facilitated workshops, delivered keynote presentations, and spoken to thousands of students, teachers, and service providers about his experiences.



National Presenters

Denise Bissonnette – *September 19, 2006*

Denise Bissonnette is one of North America's most sought-after trainers and speakers on career development, job development, workforce development, and "true livelihood." Her early literacy work with political refugees allowed her to see the difficulties they faced in trying to establish themselves in the American workplace. In response, she made a career change and became a Job Developer – working with employers to secure jobs for people from groups that were not traditionally part of the workforce. Denise's job search curriculum, 'Pathways,' has become a cornerstone for the placement services of many social service agencies and educational systems. Her book 'Beyond Traditional Job Development' stands as the definitive text for job development professionals throughout the continent. Other programs include 'Crossroads,' 'Cultivating the Spirit to Work,' and 'Cultivating True Livelihood' curriculum. Denise's new book, '30 Ways to Shine as A New Employee,' is a proactive response to emerging job retention issues.



Kathy Buckley – *September 18, 2006*

Kathy Buckley, comedienne, actress, author, motivational speaker, and much more, inspires young and old with refreshing insights on life's challenges, inevitable adversity, and indomitable courage. Kathy was born with a hearing loss that went undetected until she was eight, and led her to believe she was mentally disabled. She was sexually abused, run over by a jeep, and stricken with cancer, all before the age of thirty. Rather than be consumed by grief, she sought the light of laughter. Kathy Buckley not only survived, she went on to become a top female comic, and the award winning author of a one-woman show, PBS special, and book. She is also a beloved motivational speaker in demand for organizations including Anthony Robbin's Life Mastery, numerous Fortune 500 companies, governmental agencies, and many others.



Leslie Coull – *September 18 & 19, 2006*

Leslie Coull is the director and founder of ECLG Learning & Publishing Group. She is a special education teacher, educational assessor, and Orton-Gillingham tutor.

Leslie has authored several textbooks for the English as a Second Language (ESL) market, and is co-producer and co-writer of ECLG's Transitions video curricula series. At ECLG, Leslie continues to assist individuals with learning and attention difficulties in reaching their goals. She is a frequent speaker at workshops, seminars, and training sessions across North America on the subject of learning disabilities/differences and the power of self-advocacy training.



Jane Falls – September 18 & 19, 2006

Jane Falls is the Coordinator of the National Post-School Outcomes Center at the University of Oregon. Since 1984, she has provided national leadership and technical assistance in secondary education and transition from school to adult life, and post-school outcomes. Ms. Falls co-authored a seminal guide translating the IDEA transition requirements into practical, effective implementation strategies for schools, families, states and universities. Ms. Falls has also been a high school special education teacher, and Training Director for Winners at Work, a non-profit organization in Hawaii which is dedicated to the employment of individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Falls has a brother with cerebral palsy, and a sister with polio who uses a wheelchair. Her personal family experiences have strongly impacted her work.



Dr. Peter Leone – September 18, 2006

Dr. Leone, Professor of Special Education, specializes in behavior disorders. His experience includes direct service to troubled youth as well as field-based research which examines the multidimensional problems associated with behavior disorders. Dr. Leone points to the role of environmental and cultural factors in the inception of behavior disorders and believes educators need to take a multidisciplinary approach when implementing programs for troubled or troubling youth.

Dr. Leone's research interests focus on program environments for troubled youth educational entitlements of incarcerated youth, and policy studies. He is currently furthering these interests through several grant-supported research projects. He directs The National Center on Education, Disability, and Juvenile Justice, a research, training and technical assistance project funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Leone has had numerous articles published in professional journals and has made many presentations at national, state, and local conferences on topics related to the effective treatment and instruction of behaviorally disordered youth.



Ed O'Leary - September 18 & 19, 2006

Dr. Ed O'Leary is a Consultant and Program Specialist for Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center. He received his Doctorate from the University of Illinois in Vocational Technical Education/Special Needs (1991) and his Masters in Special Education from Drake University. He has spent over 30 years working in and with schools as a secondary special education teacher, special education consultant, transition specialist, work experience coordinator, program specialist and program director. He developed the Transition Outcomes Project, an approach to helping districts and states meet transition requirements in order to demonstrate improvement and results. The Transition Outcomes Project is now operating in over 25 states/regions and over 1,500 districts across the country.



BILL SCOTT – September 19, 2006

Mr. Bill Scott is a nationally known public speaker sought after for his extensive knowledge of both diversity and disability issues. He is the founder and President of ABILITIES UNLIMITED, INC., a diversities and disabilities issues consulting firm in Phoenix, Arizona. Audiences are drawn to his calm, but direct presentation style, and sense of humor, whether he is talking about the technical aspects of the Americans with Disabilities Act, or sharing his experiences about living with a disability for 30 years.

Mr. Scott takes pride in his willingness to provide direct answers to difficult questions. As an African American who is also a wheelchair user and a small business owner, Mr. Scott's public speaking includes keynote presentations for Black History Month, as well as Disability Awareness Month. He also speaks as a business person who has been presented with the Outstanding Minority Small Business Advocate Award by the U.S. Small Business Administration. He is the author of *Planning Accessible Meetings*, a guidebook for conferences, seminars, and meeting planners. Mr. Scott was recently appointed to the National Council on Disabilities Cultural Diversity Advisory Committee 2006. His name appears in the 1987 National Distinguished Service Registry in the field of Medical and Vocational Rehabilitation. He holds several distinguished national awards and has been honored for his work and participation in the advancement of opportunities for individuals with disabilities.



Concurrent Sessions

Monday, September 18, 2006

Arizona State Prison Complex Perryville: A Working Model of How to Implement a Transition Outcomes Model at Your School

Assistive Technology in the Maricopa Community College District

Assistive Technology and Transition: Making Choices; Getting Results

Career and Job Development Guided Tour: A Plan for Youth and Parents

Choosing Education Goals: Self-Determined Navajo Students and Culturally Responsive Transitions

DCOY, an Approach to Transition

Establishing Successful Student Work Sites in a Rural District

Goodwill and Southwest Institute, Partner to Get Youth on the Path to Successful Careers

Mentoring As an Approach to Meeting the Transition Needs of Court Involved Young Women

Navajo Students Practicing Culturally Responsive Self-Determined Transitions to Further Education and Careers: The Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Transition Taxonomy

Professional ADHD & Life Skills Coaching, Part of the Multi-modal Team: Making Things Happen, Not Having Things Happen

Vocational and Life Skills Training on a College Campus

Student Self-Directed Program Evaluation of Transition Programs: Empowering Students in Culturally Responsive Transition Planning

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Assistive Technology for the College-Bound Student

Student-Led IEPs at Black Canyon School

Exceptional Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students Transitioning to Careers: Culturally Responsive Self-Determined Transition IEPs

How TOP's changed IEPs and empowered students!

Innovative Classroom Ideas for Incarcerated Youth

Parent Information Network: Your Link to Resources for Parents and Students

Navigating the One Stop Career Center by Building Opportunity and Removing Barriers through Partnerships and Systems Change

Student Involvement is the MAGIC in Transition Planning

Teach Me to Fish, It Will Feed Me for a Lifetime ... Teaching Self Advocacy by Using Student Led IEP's

This Ride's For Me – Part One and Part Two

Transition Driven IEPs in Secure Care: Ensuring Reintegration Success

Traumatic Brain Injury: Thriving Beyond Injury

Understanding Social Security Disability Programs

Using Community Resource Mapping to Improve Youth Outcomes

Website Accessibility



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